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ABSTRACT

Trends and changes in Mississippi farms, farmers, and farm populations were investigated for the period between 1950 and 1970 and comparisons were made between the farm population and that of the urban and rural nonfarm segments in terms of growth trends and 1970 characteristics. Data were drawn from both the Censuses of Agriculture (taken at five year intervals, the last of which was taken in fall of 1969) and the decennial Censuses of Population and Housing (the last of which was taken in April, 1970). Results indicated the following dramatic changes during the 1950-1970 period: outstanding improvements in farm mechanization, ownership tenure, automotive transportation, and possession of convenience appliances; deficiencies in about 25% of the rural farm and nonfarm housing; comparable rural and urban lifestyles (as measured by income and education levels) among whites with the lowest income and education levels of all groups investigated obtaining among the rural blacks, though this level was not far from that of urban blacks; small and seemingly residual urban-rural differences for family size, fertility ratios, and female labor force participation; a trend toward mixing farm and off-farm occupations; industrial interdependence, establishing farm-to-factory commuting and urban types of conveniences for rural Mississippians; a tremendous reduction in the size of the state's farming population, changing production from an essentially self-sufficient family farm type to that of a more efficient industrial-commercial nature. (JC)

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Mississippi's Farming & Nonfarming Population A Comparison Of Characteristics And Trends 1950 To 1970

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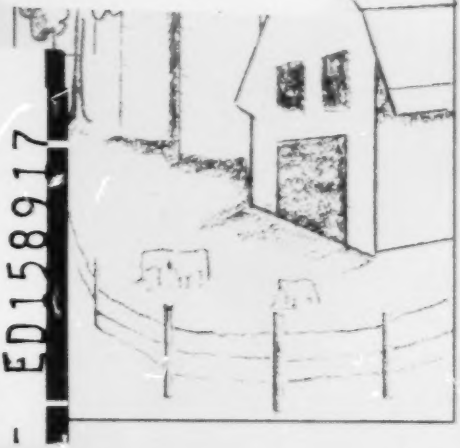

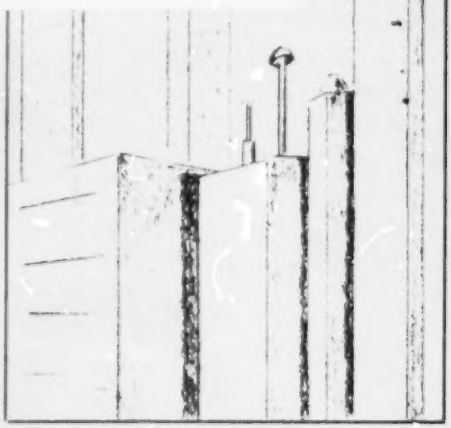

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MISSISSIPPI'S FARMING AND NONFARMING POPULATION
A COMPARISON OF CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS
1950 TO 1970

By Ellen S. Bryant, MAFES Sociologist

Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station

Mississippi State University

April 1974

MISSISSIPPI'S FARMING AND NONFARMING POPULATION
A COMPARISON OF CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS
1950 TO 1970

While state and nation are currently engaged in consideration of potential agricultural scarcities and rising food prices, there are recent indications that the size of the United States farm population may be ceasing to decrease. For the first time in more than 20 years, the size of the nation's farm population maintained relative stability for two successive years at 4.6 percent of the total population according to a recent publication from the U. S. Bureau of the Census giving estimates of the farm population for 1971 and 1972.[1] It may be that these events portend a change in farm population trends and a new emphasis on the significance of the nation's agricultural enterprise.

In view of such future possibilities, a review of recent statistics describing Mississippi's farm population should be of significant interest. This report will investigate and describe trends and changes for Mississippi farms, farmers and farm populations for the period between 1950 and 1970, and will compare the farm population with that of urban and rural nonfarm segments in terms of growth trends and 1970 characteristics. Data on which the report is based are drawn from both the Censuses of Agriculture (taken at 5-year intervals, the last of which was taken in fall of 1969) and the decennial Censuses of Population and Housing (the last of which was taken in April, 1970).[2]

What have been the overall trends for Mississippi's farm population over the past twenty years, and particularly, what are its unique characteristics today? Traditionally, Mississippi has been oriented toward farming, both as an economic enterprise and as a way of life, but sweeping changes have overtaken the state in the last twenty years. In 1950, half of her population lived on farms, nearly 70 percent of her land was used in farming, and 40 percent of her labor force was engaged in farming,[3] but by 1970, Mississippi had moved very close to national modes of population and occupational distribution. According to the latest census, only 9.5 percent of her population is now classed as farm residents (as compared with 4.8 percent

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1. U. S. Bureau of the Census *Farm Population*, Series Census-ERS, P-27, No. 44 (June, 1973), p.

2. The population bases used to describe the current characteristics of Mississippi farm population were the 72,577 farms and the 52,210 farm families enumerated, respectively, by the agricultural census of 1969 and population and housing census of 1970. The approximate 20,000 difference between farms in 1969 and farm families in 1960 may be explained in part by difference in type of unit used and in part by continued loss of farm population. A farm does not necessarily contain a household unit or a family. In addition to families, Mississippi had 5,986 households of unrelated or primary individuals and 2,651 subfamilies enumerated in the 1970 census. Differences in the population bases need not be a problem here, inasmuch as the interest is chiefly in the characteristics which describe them.

3. See Table 1 and the U. S. Bureau of the Census, *1950 Census of Population* Volume 11, Part 24 (Washington, D. C.: USGPO), Table 26.

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for the nation), and only 6.4 percent of her labor forces (as compared to 2.8 percent for the nation) are engaged in farming.[4] These changes in the proportions of the state's population involved in farming—changes which were probably an inevitable outcome of the modernizing trend in agriculture—have resulted from an unprecedented movement and relocation of large sectors of the state population, and, along with these movements, impressive changes in levels of living and life styles.

Farm and Nonfarm Population Trends

While total population figures have remained deceptively unchanged (a slight 1.74 percent increase in twenty years) the farming population of the state has decreased 80 percent, the number of farms and farming units have decreased more than 70 percent, the urban population has increased 62 percent, and the rural nonfarm sector has grown by about 115 percent—a farm-to-nonfarm population transition which has effected a net occupational relocation of about 40 percent of the state's population in the twenty year period.[5]

County Distributions of Growth Trends

Equally as impressive as the high rates of change in the state's farm and nonfarm population segments is the extent to which the rural population change blankets the entire state. See maps in Figures 1, 2, and 4 and Table 5, giving numerical data and percent changes for counties. Only three counties decreased less than 70 percent in farm population during the 20 year period, and in many cases, losses were greater than 90 percent. Geographically, there were more counties in the northeastern corner and eastern half than in other sections of the state with below average farm population losses. However, rates of loss did not vary extensively by region. In the change in the number of farms (and farmers) as recorded by the agricultural censuses (Figure 4) a geographic pattern is visible, and the Delta shows up as the region of heaviest loss. However, the loss trend is a matter of degree rather than of fundamental pattern. The Delta, with its extensive farming operations, and originally more numerous farm population is more adaptable to mechanization and more visible in terms of population outmovement, even though its rates of change for the various residence segments are not impressively different from those in other regions of the state.

In the rural nonfarm sector, all but six counties increased at least 50 percent, and in some cases, growth quadrupled. (Figure 2). Again, no distinct geographic pattern appears in the net rates of growth. In fact, even for the two race groups, the general patterns seem to apply; although, on the average, nonwhites had higher farm loss rates and lower nonfarm growth rates than did whites. In most counties, both races experienced rural nonfarm growth rates which exceeded their loss rates for farm

4. U. S. Bureau of the Census, *1970 Census of Population, Detailed Characteristics*, Report No. PC(1)-D26 (Washington, D.C.: USGPO) Tables 138, 173, and 174; PC(1)-C1, Table 81; *Farm Population*, Series Census-ERS, P-27, No. 44 (June, 1973), p. 1.

5. See Tables 1 and 5.

residents although only in a few cases did numerical nonfarm growth recover or exceed the farm losses. Furthermore, such loss recoveries occurred almost exclusively among the white populations in or near leading urban centers and may be more of a factor in dispersion of urban growth than in stabilization of rural population distributions.[6]

The growth of the state's rural nonfarm population is both interesting and enigmatic, in that it undoubtedly incorporates several types of growth. In one respect, it can be seen as rural growth which counteracts the state's extensive farm population loss and may simply be a change of occupation rather than a change of residence. But, as indicated above, rural nonfarm population growth must also be seen as containing a suburban and possibly an ex-urban component, the latter resulting from a flight of affluents from town to country estates. Thus, it represents a form of modern population growth which is an alternative to urban concentration and centralization.

The distribution of urban population growth is less uniform, and identifying a definitive pattern of change is even more elusive than it was for the state's rural segments. Actually, the urban growth cannot be explained in itself, but must also (even more so than for the farm population) be looked at in terms of how it relates to rural nonfarm trends. Urban residence is based on politically defined boundaries, and its growth depends to a large extent on the happenstance of political annexation. As the map (Figure 3) shows, twenty-three counties were still defined as totally rural in 1970, although another fifteen had moved from this category between 1950 and 1970 and had an urban component at the later date. Five counties lost urban population, and the remaining thirty-nine increased at varying rates. Comparison of the maps and study of Table 5 shows that in many counties loss or small growth of urban population was offset by a significant rural nonfarm increase.

Farmer and Farming Trends

However, changing population and occupational distributions give only a partial description of changes that have been occurring in Mississippi's rural populations, her farming enterprise, and her farm population. Tables 1 and 2, drawn from the agricultural censuses, give statistical summaries of changes in characteristics of Mississippi farms, farmers, and farm industry. Tables 3 and 4, drawn from the population and housing censuses, compare 1970 population characteristics for the state's urban, rural nonfarm, and rural farm populations.

While the state's farm population has been drastically reduced in size since 1950, the amount of land used in agriculture has remained relatively high. As Table 1 shows, the 1969 Census of Agriculture enumerated less than one-third as many farmers in 1969 as were counted in 1950, but the amount of acreage the state devoted to farming was about 80 percent of the 1950 amount. This trend toward a lower farm population density is also reflected by the fact that average size of a farm in 1969 was two-and-one-half times the 1950 average size, having increased from 81 to 221 acres.

6. See, for instance; Adams, George, Green, Grenada, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lamar, Lawrence, Lowndes, Marshall, Pearl River, Perry, Rankin, and Warren Counties in Table 5.

The overall picture given by these statistics and those that follow is a rapid change in Mississippi from a labor-intensive small farm system with high proportions of tenancy to large-scale mechanized farming with predominantly ownership tenure. The proportion of full owners among Mississippi farmers in 1969 was nearly twice that found in 1950, and the farm tenancy percent was cut by 80 percent. Not only was farm population loss disproportionately concentrated in the tenancy group, it was especially pronounced among black tenants. Table 1 shows, also, that while the proportions of owner-operators who are black remained relatively constant over the 20-year period, the percent of the tenant group who are black changed from 72.5 percent in 1950 to 41.8 percent in 1969—or from a predominantly black to a predominantly white group. Part of the decrease in the proportion of tenancy, however, can undoubtedly be accounted for by increased use of hired farm workers. While the last agricultural census does not give data on the number of hired farm workers as earlier censuses did, it does show that the proportion of farms using hired help increased more between 1964 and 1969—from 41.2 to 49.5 percent—than in any of the preceding periods.

Thus, the model 1970 Mississippi farmer, as contrasted with his 1950 version, may be described as typically white and typically an owner-operator. In terms of age, he averaged eight years older than he did in 1950; and, in fact, 22 percent of his number was past retirement age as compared with 13 percent 20 years earlier. The 1970 farmer was also more likely than his 1950 predecessor to live somewhere else than on the farm he operated (16.6%) or to be working off the farm he operated (44.0%). However, the proportions of farms classed as part-time or retirement did not change significantly between 1959 and 1969, their combined percents ranging between 43 and 47 percent.

While somewhat difficult to assess, part-time farming, as well as occupation and residence patterns which combine town and farm components are apparently a continuous and possibly an increasing type of adaptation to changing organization of the agricultural enterprise. It has long been thought that part-time farming was used by many as a means for leaving agriculture and entering the non-farm labor force. This may still be the case, or it may be that these farm and non-farm combinations of work and residence patterns are a way of adopting an urban life style without giving up profitable or enjoyable agricultural operations.[7] Table 3, which compares the 1970 industry distribution of the farm resident work force with that for urban and rural nonfarm groups, also substantiates the thesis that town and country residence, occupation, and life style patterns are interwoven and interdependent. Data from this table are discussed further below.

Farm Operation Change

Table 1 also gives a thumbnail sketch of changes in the nature of farming operations in the state over the 1950-to-1970 period. While the proportion of Mississippi farmers engaged in commercial farming enterprises has remained relatively unchanged, the level of operation, the mix of farming enterprises and degree of mechanization have not. Corporate

7. Ellen S. Bryant and Kit Mui Leung, *Mississippi Farm Trends, 1950-1964*, MAFES Bulletin No. 754 (December, 1967), pp. 5-6.

TABLE 1 - CHARACTERISTICS OF MISSISSIPPI FARMS AND FARM OPERATORS, 1950 TO 1969

Characteristic	1969	1964	1959	1950
Farmers				
Number	72,577	109,141	138,142	251,383
Percent change per period	-33.5	-21.0	-45.0	-4.6[a]
Full owners				
Percent of total	72.3	59.2	54.0	41.0
Percent white	76.7	77.6	76.4	77.4
Percent nonwhite	23.3	22.4	23.6	22.6
Tenants				
Percent of total	9.0	23.5	32.3	51.6
Percent white	59.6	27.5	27.8	27.5
Percent nonwhite	40.4	72.5	72.2	72.5
Percent 65 and over	22.1	20.1	18.0	13.1
Median age	54.1	52.8	51.2	46.2
Percent working off their farms[b]	44.0	34.0	29.9	17.5
Percent residing off farm operated	16.6	7.5	5.0	2.9
Farms				
Number	72,577	109,141	138,142	251,383
Percent of land area in farms	53.0	58.7	61.6	68.5
Average acres per farm	221.0	162.6	134.9	82.4
By economic class				
Percent commercial[c]	37.3	33.0	29.1	NA
Percent part-time	29.9	26.6	31.4	NA
Percent part retirement	16.6	16.7	15.5	NA
Percent using hired workers	49.6	41.2	36.8	32.3
Percent with income from:				
Customwork and agricultural services	7.4	NA	NA	NA
Recreational services	1.1	0.3	NA	NA
Government farm programs	44.1	NA	NA	NA
Percent of commercial farms[c] with:				
Corporate ownership	1.5	NA	NA	NA
Sales of $100,000	4.2	3.4	NA	NA
Percent of state's farm income from:				
Crops	44.8	64.8	61.3	74.0
Forest products	1.3	1.0	1.6	2.0
Livestock and their products	54.0	34.2	36.8	24.0

(continued on page 6)

8

Characteristic	1969	1964	1959	1950
Percent with:				
Telephones	NA	40.2	26.7	6.5
Home Freezers	NA	66.4	42.6	4.5
Automobiles	60.4	65.1	52.8	26.8
Trucks	69.3	55.5	44.5	20.0
Tractors (not garden)	69.4	47.5	37.2	12.9

a. Percent change, 1945 to 1950.

b. 100 days or more

c. Farms with sales of $2,500 or more.

SOURCES: U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture, 1969,* Vol. 1, Part 33 (Washington, D. C.: USGPO), Tables 3, 4, 6, and 12; *1964,* Table 1, 3, 4, and 5; *1959,* Table 4; *1950,* Vol. 1, Part 22, Part A, Table 16.

ownership characterized 1.5 percent of Mississippi's farms in 1969 and 4 percent had sales of more than $100,000. Further, nearly 70 percent of Mississippi's farms were equipped with tractors in 1969, whereas, in 1950 only 13.3 percent were. The sources of farm income shifted noticeably away from crops and to livestock between 1950 and 1969 and, in addition, other important sources of income were reported for the first time at the later date. These were government farm programs, from which 44.8 percent obtained income, agricultural custom and service work, from which 7.4 percent received income, and recreational services, just barely measurable at 1.1 percent.

Agricultural census statistics on farm units in terms of crop and livestock production are not as easy to evaluate as the statistics discussed in the above paragraph; however, they bear out the same trends and fill in some interesting details. For instance, Table 2 shows that 73.4 percent of the state's farms harvested crops, even though only 44.8 percent of the state's farm income came from sales of crops (Table 1). Similarly, the proportion of farmers with livestock was higher than the proportion of the state's farm income from livestock. It is interesting to note that in many cases the percent of farms reporting raising a particular kind of crop or livestock has declined rather than increased. Exceptions are soybeans, sorghum, vegetables, and broilers. Product specialization seems to be one of the developing trends among Mississippi farmers.

Farm Levels of Living

Farm levels of living, in terms of conveniences, also seem to be noticeably improved, although the data given are somewhat limited. Tables 1 and 4 both contain some of these items. Automotive transport seems to be accessible to the vast majority of farmers, in that 60 percent reported having automobiles and 69 percent reported having trucks. While some truck owners undoubtedly also had autos, it does not seem reasonable to assume a 100 percent overlap. The 1970 population census also gives data indicating automotive affluence for Mississippi farmers, showing that 27 percent had more than one automobile available. This proportion was somewhat higher than that for the rural nonfarm category, and

TABLE 2 - PERCENT OF FARMS RAISING VARIOUS TYPES OF CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

MISSISSIPPI, 1950 TO 1969

Product	1969	1964	1959	1950
All farms				
Number	72,577	109,141	138,142	251,383
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent harvesting cropland	73.4	80.8	85.6	91.3
Percent harvesting:				
Corn (all purposes)	32.4	52.4	66.8	74.0
Sorghum (grain or seed)	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.2
Grain Wheat	1.4	1.7	0.9	0.2
Soybeans (for beans)	17.3	8.0	7.0	1.7
Hay[a]	30.2	NA	NA	NA
Cotton	39.4	46.5	56.0	75.9
Peanuts (for nuts)	3.8	4.9	4.6	4.9
Land in orchards	3.7	5.9	7.8	30.3
Vegetables for sale	5.1	4.1	4.8	4.3
Percent with:				
Cattle and Calves	70.0	76.4	72.6	67.9
Milk Cows	18.5	34.4	47.4	61.2
Hogs and Pigs	23.4	39.5	62.3	67.4
Sheep and Lambs	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.5
Chickens[b]	22.6	50.8	70.0	83.4[c]
Broilers[d]	2.4	NA	NA	NA

a. Excludes sorghum hay.

b. Includes chickens three months and older.

c. Includes chickens four months and older.

d. Includes meat-type chickens less than three months old.

NOTE: NA indicates data are not available.

SOURCE: Computed from data in U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture, 1969 Mississippi*, Vol. 1, Part 33 (Washington, D. C.: USGPO) Tables 7 and 8; *1959*, Table 6 and 8.

surprisingly close to the urban population's 34.2 percent. The agricultural census of 1964 reported that the percent of ownership of telephones and freezers among Mississippi farmers had increased to 40.2 and 66.4 percent, respectively. While the 1969 agricultural census does not report these figures, the population census for 1970 (Table 3) gives the percent of ownership among farm households of freezers at 71.5 percent. Television ownership was reported for 90.6 percent of farm housing units. The urban population, by comparison, has a slightly higher rate of television ownership (93.1%) but a much lower rate of food freezer ownership (34.3%). The state's farm population was also ahead of its urban counterpart in terms of having clothes dryers and dishwashers.

Rural and Urban Population Characteristics

Nevertheless, in spite of changes, a sizeable proportion of farm households in Mississippi retained some of the characteristics typically associated with low-income rural populations. Following the tabulation on possession of appliances in Table 3 are statistics on households lacking flush toilets and piped water. It can be seen that about one-fourth of all rural households lacked piped water and about one-third lacked flush toilets.

Farm and urban differences also show up among education and economic characteristics. Farm families had lower median family incomes, lower educational and vocational training levels, and higher proportions of its families below the poverty level than nonfarm families. However, it is the Negro farm category where income and education levels were lowest and poverty levels highest. In fact, these statistics indicate that persistence of low socioeconomic levels in Mississippi seems to be much more a problem of the Negro family than of the farm family, per se. Comparing the category of highest Negro family median income (urban at $3,865) with the lowest white (rural farm at $5,890) the latter is seen to be 50 percent higher than the former. Similarly, the differences in proportions below the poverty level were much greater in the white-black comparisons than in the urban-farm comparisons. More than two-thirds of all rural black families, whether farm or nonfarm, were classed as having incomes below poverty level. In urban areas, close to half were below this level. Whites, on the other hand, had 10 percent of their urban families and about 20 percent of their rural families at below poverty level.

Female participation in the labor force was noticeably lower in the farm than in the urban and nonfarm populations. In fact, for all groups display (whether white, Negro, total female labor force, or mothers with small children under six) there is a progressive decline as one moves from left to right in the table (from urban to farm). Reasons for these differences cannot be detected from these data. It can only be surmised that the variations may be related to differential family size, a higher average age for farm wives, involvement of family workers in unpaid farm labor, or perhaps isolation from access to job market areas. It is also possible that the lower proportions of rural women engaged in gainful work has an effect in helping hold farm family incomes at their comparatively low level.

Perhaps the most interesting of the entries in Table 3 are those giving the proportions of the work force in the various residence categories employed in agriculture, mining, construction, and manufacturing.[8] While the rural farm population did indeed have the highest proportion of its work force engaged in agriculture, it is somewhat surprising that only about one-third of it was so employed. It is also interesting to note that the farm population contributed very nearly the same proportions to the other labor force categories listed as the urban population did. The low median income of farm families was of necessity drawn from more than farm sources. What it would have been without such

8. It should be noted that work force includes all employed family members, and while the major breadwinner may be a fulltime farmer, several other family members may have nonfarm jobs.

Table 3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF URBAN AND RURAL RESIDENTS

MISSISSIPPI, 1970

Characteristic	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm
Percent of Occupied Housing Units With:			
Two or More Automobiles	34.2	26.5	26.9
Clothes Washing Machine	66.7	68.2	76.1
Clothes Dryer	30.8	21.3	22.3
Dishwasher	16.9	7.7	6.7
Food Freezer	34.3	53.3	71.5
Television	93.1	89.9	90.6
Without:			
Piped Water	2.0	24.6	26.9
Flush Toilets	3.3	30.9	33.5
Percent of Work Force 16+ Employed in:*			
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	1.6	8.7	34.4
Mining	.8	1.4	.8
Construction	6.6	8.7	6.7
Manufacturing	20.5	32.5	23.8
Median Family Income	7300	5309	4356
White	8883	6696	5890
Negro	3865	2856	2407
Percent of Families Below Poverty Level	21.2	35.1	36.1
White	10.2	20.9	21.0
Negro	49.1	67.2	66.9
Median Years of School Completed			
Males 25+	12.1	9.1	8.8
White	12.5	10.8	10.6
Negro	7.7	6.0	5.5
Females 25+	12.0	9.9	10.0
White	12.4	11.3	11.4
Negro	8.6	7.7	7.5
Percent of Persons 16-64 with Vocational Training**			
Male	22.8	17.3	14.1
Female	16.4	11.4	9.0
Percent of Females in Labor Force 16+			
All	44.1	35.1	29.1
White	42.7	36.5	32.0
Negro	47.2	32.5	24.3
With Own Children Under 6	44.1	38.0	30.2
White	36.9	36.2	30.6
Negro	58.1	41.3	29.8

(continued on page 10)

*In numbers, the urban work force - 351,496; rural nonfarm - 305,443; rural farm - 62,009

**With less than 15 years of school.

SOURCES: U. S. Bureau of the Census, *1970 Census of Population, General Social and Economic Characteristics,* Report No. PC(1)-C26 (Washington, D. C.: USGPO) Corrected Tables 53, 55, 57, 58, and 51; *1970 Census of Housing, Detailed Housing Characteristics,* Report No. HC(1) B26, Corrected Tables 31 and 32.

sources is impossible to know from these data. However, it would almost certainly have been lower than reported. It is also worth noting that it was the state's rural nonfarm rather than its urban population that was the most significant contributor to the state's manufacturing work force.

Traditional urban-rural fertility differentials were also apparent in a limited way in the 1970 population of the state. As Table 4 shows, farm populations tended to have slightly higher average family sizes than urban residents, but slightly smaller ones than the rural nonfarm category. In all residence groups, the female headed families had the highest average. Farm families had the largest percentage of the very large families. Better than 13 percent of families had seven or more members compared to 8 percent for urban families. Similarly, fertility levels, as measured by the cumulative statistic of number of children ever born to women at or past child bearing ages, were higher in rural areas and highest for the rural farm population. However, differences were larger within the Negro than within the non-Negro population. For the first group, farm mothers have averaged 1.8 more children per woman than their urban counterpart. In the non-Negro population, the average difference per mother is .7 children.

In the 20 through 24 age group, differences in the number of children ever born to urban and rural women were considerably less. Here, differences between urban and farm groups for Negroes averaged only .5 children per mother, while the non-Negro group showed a variation of only .3 children per mother. The highest black rates still occurred in the farm population, but for non-Negroes, rural nonfarm fertility was slightly higher than that for the farm group. If one can assume that the differences between the number of births for the 20-24 year group and the total 15-and-over group are indicative of a continuing trend, it is reasonable to predict that within the near future birth rates for rural and farm families will not differ from those for families living in the city.

Summary and Conclusion

Mississippi's farm population has experienced dramatic changes during the twenty-year period between 1950 and 1970. Outstanding improvements in farm mechanization, ownership tenure, automotive transportation, and possession of convenience appliances have been noted. However, some problems remain. About 25 percent of rural housing, both farm and nonfarm, still has deficiencies in the most essential of all home conveniences—piped water. An even larger percent lacks flush toilets.

Rural life styles, as measured by income and education levels, are approaching those of the urban residents for the state's white population. But, the black farm population continues to exhibit the lowest income and education

TABLE 4 - FAMILY AND FERTILITY CHARACTERISTICS FOR URBAN AND RURAL RESIDENTS MISSISSIPPI, 1970

Characteristic	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm
Number of Families[a]			
Total	240,340	241,894	52,210
White	171,711	167,419	35,099
Negro	68,192	73,815	17,063
Number of Subfamilies[b]			
Total	9,372	11,601	2,651
White	3,499	4,433	1,086
Negro	5,858	7,125	1,549
Average Size of Families			
All	3.68	3.98	3.94
Husband/Wife	3.67	3.99	3.93
Female Head	3.75	4.07	4.16
Percent of Families with 7+ Members	8.0	12.2	12.3
Percent of Families with Head Only in Labor Force	38.8	36.3	37.7
Number of Children Ever Born Per 1000 Women Ever Married Aged:			
15+			
Total	2,634	3,368	3,744
Non-Negro	2,319	2,854	3,063
Negro	3,383	4,495	5,137
20-24			
Total	1,123	1,470	1,613
Non-Negro	903	1,214	1,189
Negro	1,804	2,20[illegible]	2,339

a. A family is a group of two or more people residing together who are related by blood, marriage or adoption. All such persons are considered one family even though they may include a subfamily.

b. A subfamily is a married couple or a parent-child group related to and sharing the living quarters of the family head.

SOURCES: U. S. Bureau of the Census, *1970 Census of Population, Detailed Characteristics, Mississippi,* Report No. PC(1)-D26 (Washington, D. C.: USGPO) Table 157, 158, and 161; Report No. PC(1)-C26, Corrected Table 52.

levels of all the groups examined. However, urban blacks are not impressively better off than farm blacks, and these data give strong support for the conclusion that rural farm poverty in Mississippi is not so much a problem of inefficient agricultural production as it is a problem of a disadvantaged minority

group, many of whose members have not yet made sufficient economic and educational achievement to be classed as average Mississippians.

Small and seemingly residual urban-rural differences were found for family size, fertility ratios, and female participation in the labor force, indicating, perhaps, a somewhat greater tendency for persistence of a family-centered life style among rural than among non-rural populations.

In terms of future population distributions and their economic and political impact, the most significant pattern suggested by this statistical description of Mississippi farm population is the trend toward mixing farm and off-farm occupations and residences. Farmers do not necessarily live on their farms; the majority of the employed persons living on farms work at nonfarm occupations. Thus, many Mississippians have adapted to the state's changing economic and technological bases by combining aspects of the agricultural and the urban-industrial occupations and activities. The life style they have developed are dependent on both agricultural and nonfarm bases; and the interdependence of town and country has become more than a symbiosis of industries; it has penetrated the household unit an individual breadwinners. The days of a clearly defined farm block as well as the community-bounded rural way of life may be over. Industrial interdependence has established farm-to-factory commuting and urban types of conveniences for the rural Mississippian. If these kinds of occupational and residence patterns continue, it would seem that population distribution patterns could be kept relatively flexible, and Mississippi may in the future be able to avoid dense urban concentrations which characterize so much of the nation.

However, while impressive social and economic changes have occurred among Mississippi's farming population and the future mix and distribution of rural and urban populations and occupations are promising, the most dramatic (and the most meaningful in terms of impact on individual human lives) aspect of the twenty years of change in Mississippi's population has been the tremendous reduction in the size of the state's farming population. In the space of two decades, the state's agriculture has changed from an essentially self-sufficient family farm type of production to one which is essentially of an industrial-commercial nature, efficiently maintained by a much smaller expenditure of manpower.

Whether or not farm population size has reached its lowest level or whether it will continue to decline further will not be known for several years. However, the rate of decline as experienced during the past twenty years cannot continue and loss rate must level off if the state agricultural enterprise continues to develop and proceeds to participate in a growing international market for farm products.

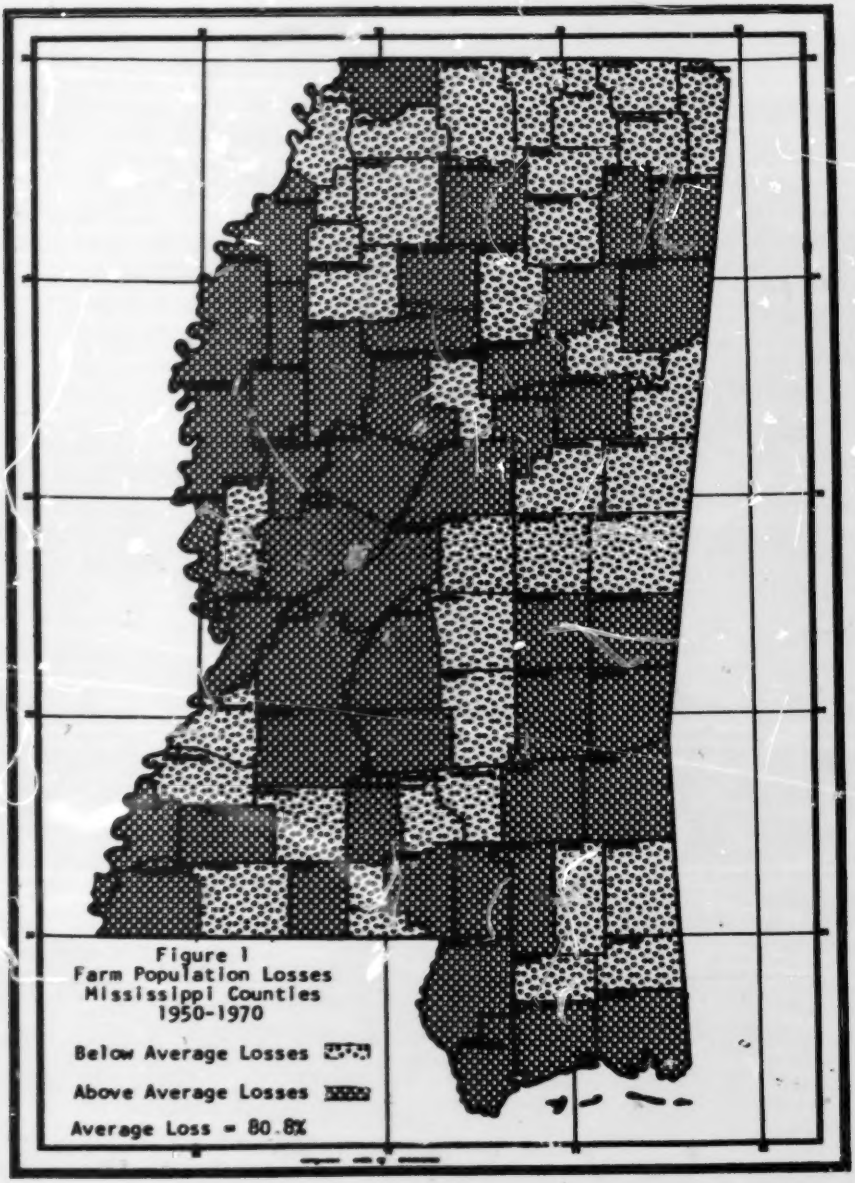
Figure 1
Farm Population Losses
Mississippi Counties
1950-1970
Below Average Losses
Above Average Losses
Average Loss = 80.8%

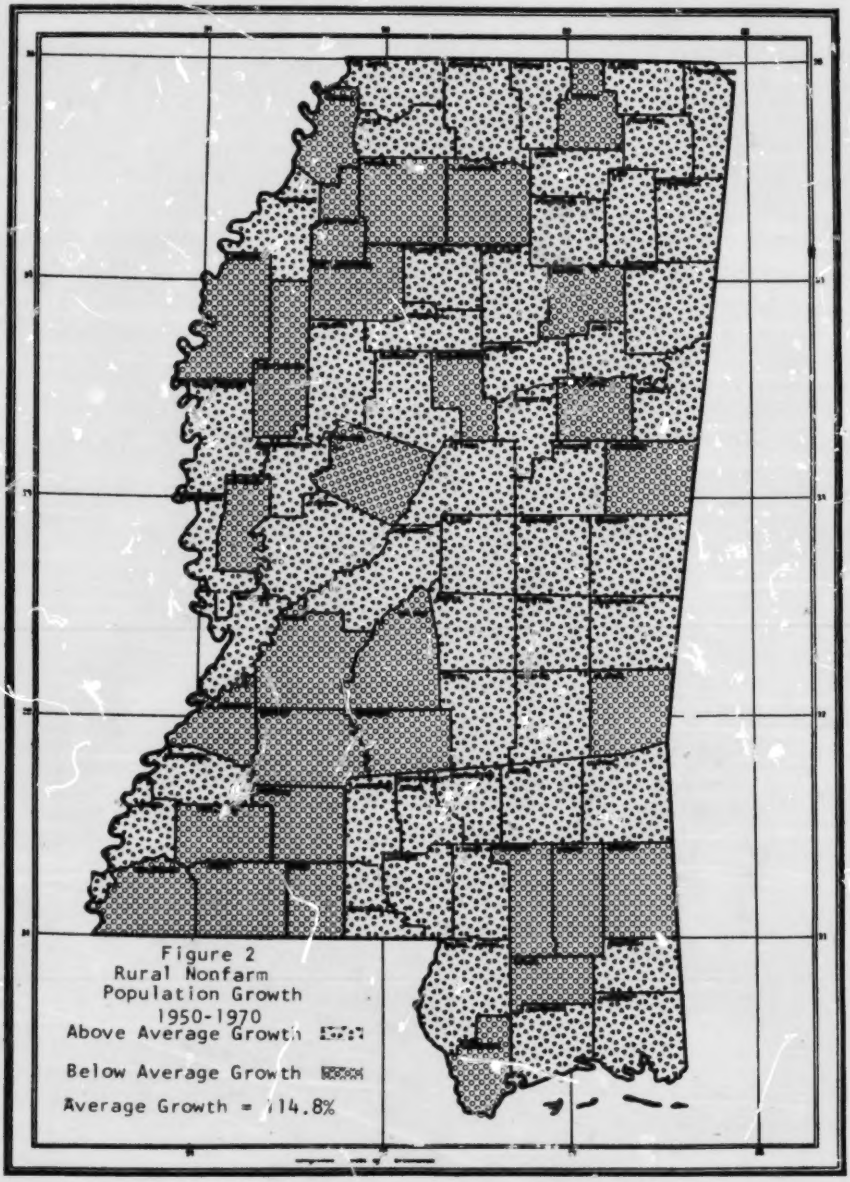
Figure 2
Rural Nonfarm
Population Growth
1950-1970
Above Average Growth
Below Average Growth
Average Growth = 14.8%

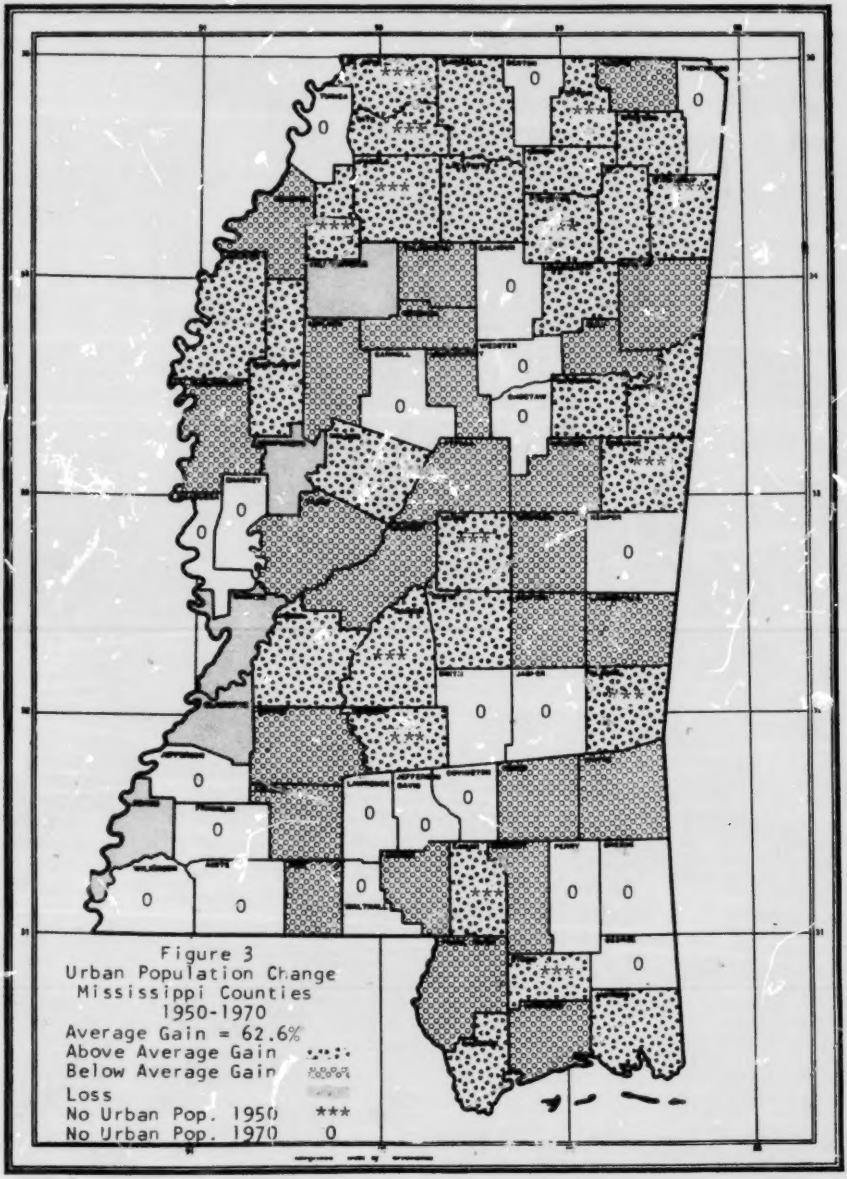
Figure 3
Urban Population Change
Mississippi Counties
1950-1970
Average Gain = 62.6%
Above Average Gain
Below Average Gain
Loss
No Urban Pop. 1950 ***
No Urban Pop. 1970 0

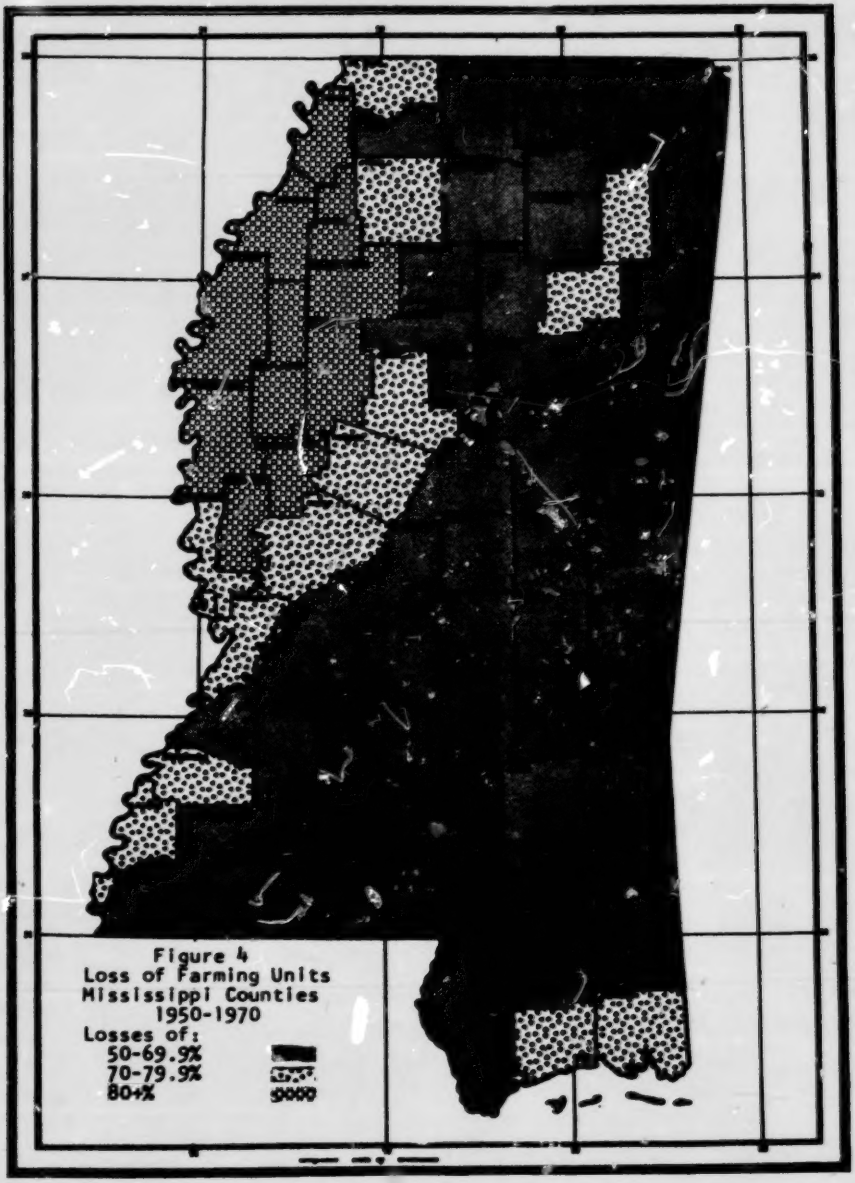
Figure 4
Loss of Farming Units
Mississippi Counties
1950-1970
Losses of:
50-69.9%
70-79.9%
80+%

TABLE 5 - RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION TRENDS, 1950 TO 1970 FOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTIES, BY RACE

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
State								
Total	2,216,912	987,312	1,019,277	210,323	+1.74	+62.61	+114.79	-80.83
White	1,394,921	653,482	621,471	119,968	+17.36	+74.58	+99.12	-76.11
Nonwhite	821,991	333,830	397,806	90,355	-16.99	+43.37	+144.90	-84.82
Adams								
Total	37,293	19,704	17,277	312	+15.62	-13.35	+252.45	-93.24
White	19,414	9,745	9,553	116	+20.19	-23.76	+270.27	-85.34
Nonwhite	17,879	9,959	7,724	196	+11.03	+0.01	+232.64	-94.87
Alcorn								
Total	27,179	11,572	12,651	2,956	+0.08	+18.26	+161.87	-76.43
White	23,940	9,287	11,855	2,798	+2.95	+23.28	+169.31	-75.28
Nonwhite	3,239	2,285	796	158	-17.03	+1.47	+85.55	-87.08
Amite								
Total	13,763	–	10,945	2,818	-28.55	–	+95.10	-79.36
White	6,821	–	5,336	1,485	-22.69	–	+64.84	-73.42
Nonwhite	6,942	–	5,609	1,333	-33.49	–	+136.37	-83.47
Attala								
Total	19,570	7,266	9,108	3,196	-26.57	+7.60	+151.53	-80.37
White	11,574	4,529	5,180	1,865	-23.27	+12.10	+78.50	-77.09
Nonwhite	7,996	2,737	3,928	1,331	-30.88	+0.88	+446.31	-83.64
Benton								
Total	7,505	–	5,638	1,867	-14.65	–	+432.89	-75.86
White	4,356	–	3,355	1,001	-11.88	–	+252.42	-74.92
Nonwhite	3,149	–	2,283	866	-18.21	–	+2053.77	-76.87

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Bolivar								
Total	49,409	20,786	25,534	3,089	-21.58	+208.08	+57.63	-92.29
white	19,004	10,682	6,749	1,573	-4.35	+157.21	+11.54	-83.72
Nonwhite	30,405	10,104	18,785	1,516	-29.51	+289.51	+85.11	-95.01
Calhoun								
Total	14,623	–	11,219	3,404	-20.39	–	+102.33	-73.46
White	10,810	–	8,239	2,571	-23.22	–	+83.74	-73.21
Nonwhite	3,813	–	2,980	833	-11.10	–	+180.87	-74.20
Carroll								
Total	9,397	–	7,399	1,998	-39.37	–	+153.65	-84.12
White	4,621	–	3,674	947	-30.65	–	+99.35	-80.35
Nonwhite	4,776	–	3,725	1,051	-45.95	–	+246.83	-86.46
Chickasaw								
Total	16,805	5,722	8,874	2,209	-11.32	–	+33.20	-82.02
White	10,825	3,949	5,279	1,607	+2.85	–	+12.59	-72.51
Nonwhite	5,980	1,773	3,605	602	-29.03	–	+81.89	-90.66
Choctaw								
Total	8,440	–	6,980	1,460	-23.34	–	+107.74	-80.91
White	6,074	–	4,971	1,103	-20.91	–	+123.52	-79.78
Nonwhite	2,366	–	2,009	357	-28.93	–	+76.85	-83.72
Claiborne								
Total	10,086	2,649	6,069	1,368	-15.56	-9.28	+91.45	-76.63
White	2,564	946	1,073	545	-14.82	-9.21	+74.47	-59.72
Nonwhite	7,522	1,703	4,996	823	-15.80	-9.32	+95.54	-81.72
Clarke								
Total	15,049	2,777	10,803	1,469	-22.28	–	+20.81	-85.90

(TABLE 5continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
White	9,634	1,902	6,557	1,175	-16.07	–	+17.49	-80.08
Nonwhite	5,415	875	4,246	294	-31.31	–	+26.33	-93.50
Clay								
Total	18,840	8,513	8,250	2,077	+6.10	+32.35	+265.21	-77.09
White	9,528	5,028	3,347	1,153	+24.39	+40.68	+174.79	-59.80
Nonwhite	9,312	3,485	4,903	924	-7.77	+21.94	+370.99	-85.09
Coahoma								
Total	40,447	21,673	13,919	4,855	-18.06	+31.04	+200.56	-82.78
White	14,207	9,792	3,353	1,062	+3.69	+31.61	+61.82	-74.65
Nonwhite	26,240	11,881	10,566	3,793	-26.41	+30.57	+312.90	-84.20
Copiah								
Total	24,749	8,660	13,859	2,230	-18.84	+22.44	+70.78	-85.43
White	12,302	4,277	6,475	1,550	-13.43	+5.81	+62.40	-74.93
Nonwhite	12,447	4,383	7,384	680	-23.56	+44.61	+78.88	-92.55
Covington								
Total	14,002	–	11,467	2,535	-12.68	–	+145.13	-77.69
White	9,437	–	7,500	1,937	-12.81	–	+114.10	-73.54
Nonwhite	4,565	–	3,967	598	-12.43	–	+237.62	-85.19
DeSoto								
Total	35,835	8,931	23,062	3,892	-45.88	–	+398.96	-80.52
White	23,261	8,922	12,976	1,363	+187.99	–	+314.70	-72.45
Nonwhite	12,624	9	10,086	2,529	-23.59	–	+5[illegible]5.55	-83.17
Forrest								
Total	57,849	44,952	12,067	830	+28.39	+52.51	+1[illegible]1.85	-84.95
White	43,537	33,597	9,171	769	+ 35.67	+72.32	+ 15.29	-83.42

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Nonwhite	14,312	11,355	2,896	61	+ 10.39	+13.81	+ 37.06	-93.04
Franklin								
Total	8,011	–	7,396	615	- 26.70	–	+ 21.41	-87.29
White	4,897	–	4,425	472	- 26.08	–	+ 37.59	-86.16
Nonwhite	3,114	–	2,971	143	- 27.65	–	+ 3.30	-89.99
George								
Total	12,459	–	11,432	1,027	+ 24.44	–	+118.96	-78.56
White	10,997	–	10,000	997	+ 25.24	–	+134.08	-77.89
Nonwhite	1,462	–	1,432	30	+18.77	–	+ 50.90	-89.36
Greene								
Total	8,545	–	7,423	1,122	+ 4.02	–	+ 84.47	-73.23
White	6,652	–	5,647	1,005	- .88	–	+94.05	-73.56
Nonwhite	1,893	–	1,776	117	+ 25.86	–	+ 59.43	-70.00
Grenada								
Total	19,854	9,944	8,905	1,005	+ 5.44	+34.60	+127.69	-86.66
White	11,164	5,606	5,013	545	+ 24.03	+40.64	+ 99.32	-78.20
Nonwhite	8,690	4,338	3,892	460	- 11.59	+27.5[illegible]	+178.80	-90.86
Hancock								
Total	17,387	10,041	6,911	435	+ 46.22	+117.29	+ 44.13	-82.42
White	14,898	8,306	6,157	435	+51.22	+130.08	+60.01	-81.83
Nonwhite	2,489	1,735	754	–	+ 22.07	+71.61	- 20.38	-100.00
Harrison								
Total	134,582	111,985	22,078	519	+ 60.08	+60.97	+117.22	-88.04
White	111,346	89,944	20,910	492	+ 57.59	+54.16	+152.20	-87.75
Nonwhite	23,236	22,041	1,168	27	+ 73.13	+96.36	- 37.64	-91.64

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Hinds								
Total	214,973	180,462	30,625	3,886	+ 51.21	+79.99	+56.11	-82.56
White	130,804	113,967	15,297	1,540	+ 67.17	+90.04	+ 14.00	-68.29
Nonwhite	84,169	66,495	15,328	2,346	+ 31.68	+65.04	+147.27	-86.54
Holmes								
Total	23,120	5,502	13,941	3,677	- 30.57	+72.05	+69.00	-83.18
White	7,337	2,762	3,662	913	- 16.85	+99.86	- 8.29	-73.53
Nonwhite	15,783	2,740	10,279	2,764	- 35.52	+50.88	+141.52	-84.98
Humphreys								
Total	14,601	3,098	8,253	3,250	- 36.83	-23.90	-219.69	-80.26
White	5,127	1,207	2,740	1,180	- 26.89	-22.33	+312.90	-71.72
Nonwhite	9,474	1,891	5,513	2,070	- 41.16	-24.87	+325.71	-83.16
Issaquena								
Total	2,737	–	2,038	699	- 4489	–	+291.92	-84.28
White	1,039	1,039	–	622	417	-35.75	–	+169.68
Nonwhite	1,698	–	1,416	282	- 49.30	–	+396.84	-90.80
Itawamba								
Total	16,847	2,899	11,621	2,327	- 2.14	–	+168.57	-81.95
White	15,928	2,617	11,083	2,228	- 2.16	–	+172.91	-81.77
Nonwhite	919	282	538	99	- 1.92	–	+102.26	-85.25
Jackson								
Total	87,975	63,028	24,500	447	+180.17	+257.20	+130.48	-85.70
White	73,638	50,121	23,093	424	+198.56	+282.17	+169.90	-85.83
Nonwhite	14,337	12,907	1,407	23	+112.81	+184.92	- 32.16	-82.71
Jasper								
Total	15,994	–	13,836	2,158	- 15.43	–	-163.14	-84.20

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
White	8,571	–	6,997	1,574	- 6.77	–	+160.40	-75.81
Nonwhite	7,423	–	6,839	584	- 23.62	–	+166.01	-91.83
Jefferson								
Total	9,295	–	7,468	1,827	- 17.79	–	+107.21	-76.28
White	2,299	–	1,526	773	- 20.37	–	+ 23.06	-53.07
Nonwhite	6,996	–	5,942	1,054	- 16.90	–	+151.35	-82.60
Jeff Davis								
Total	12,936	–	10,234	2,702	- 16.54	–	+236.31	-78.31
White	6,439	–	4,877	1,562	-6.55	–	+143.36	-68.03
Nonwhite	6,497	–	5,357	1,140	- 24.54	–	+415.59	-84.94
Jones								
Total	56,357	28,788	24,404	3,165	- 1.53	+ 0.60	+106.60	-81.17
White	42,423	18,735	21,002	2,686	+ .51	+ 1.20	+102.51	-79.84
Nonwhite	13,934	10,053	3,402	479	-7.28	-0.50	+136.09	-86.25
Kemper								
Total	10,233	–	6,757	3,476	- 35.61	–	+117.83	-72.82
White	4,437	–	3,115	1,322	- 31.32	–	+ 72.77	-71.61
Nonwhite	5,796	–	3,642	2,154	- 38.56	–	+180.37	-73.52
Lafayette								
Total	24,181	13,915	8,499	1,767	+ 6.07	+251.74	+ 31.02	-85.70
White	17,339	11,371	4,880	1,088	+ 17.88	+279.54	- 8.55	-82.94
Nonwhite	6,842	2,544	3,619	679	- 15.42	+165.00	+214.42	-88.64
Lamar								
Total	15,209	313	13,697	1,199	+ 15.00	–	+120.67	-82.92
White	13,196	313	11,706	1,177	+ 18.68	–	+160.02	-82.21
Nonwhite	2,013	0	1,991	22	- 4.42	–	+ 16.77	-94.52

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Lauderdale								
Total	67,087	45,083	20,628	1,376	+ 4.54	+ 7.61	+111.90	-89.03
White	46,281	29,920	15,392	969	+ 13.45	+ 9.44	+129.01	-85.61
Nonwhite	20,806	15,163	5,236	407	- 10.99	+ 4.18	+ 73.72	-92.99
Lawrence								
Total	11,137	–	9,921	1,216	- 11.88	–	+164.00	-86.31
White	7,553	–	6,579	974	- 4.16	–	+154.02	-81.59
Nonwhite	3,584	–	3,342	242	- 24.67	–	+186.13	-93.26
Leake								
Total	17,085	3,031	10,050	4,004	- 20.94	–	+144.52	-77.12
White	10,376	2,351	5,588	2,437	- 16.63	–	+ 89.75	-74.35
Nonwhite	6,709	680	4,462	1,567	- 26.79	–	+283.00	-80.41
Lee								
Total	46,148	20,471	22,624	3,053	+ 20.69	+ 77.59	+204.74	-84.17
White	36,586	16,892	17,370	2,324	+ 32.66	+108.13	+176.95	-82.38
Nonwhite	9,562	3,579	5,254	729	-10.29	+4.93	+356.08	-88.04
Leflore								
Total	42,111	22,400	15,671	4,040	- 18.73	+ 24.02	+198.84	-85.83
White	17,602	11,147	5,474	981	+ 6.80	+ 24.53	+ 72.14	-77.45
Nonwhite	24,509	11,253	10,197	3,059	- 30.63	+ 23.52	+394.04	-87.34
Lincoln								
Total	26,198	10,700	12,556	2,942	- 6.10	+ 37.16	+ 68.54	-76.74
White	18,134	6,659	9,149	2,326	- 3.10	+ 39.13	+ 93.34	-74.71
Nonwhite	8,064	4,041	3,407	616	- 12.20	+ 34.03	+ 25.35	-82.16
Lowndes								
Total	49,700	29,951	16,988	2,761	+ 31.30	+ 74.42	+128.43	-79.15

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
White	33,398	19,895	11,858	1,645	+71.78	+116.30	+137.83	-68.72
Nonwhite	16,302	10,056	5,130	1,116	-11.45	+26.11	+109.30	-86.02
Madison								
Total	29,737	10,503	15,913	3,321	- 12.18	+49.02	+171.46	-84.15
White	11,175	4,557	5,600	1,018	+ 25.20	+71.83	+ 89.51	-69.33
Nonwhite	18,562	5,946	10,313	2,303	- 25.76	+35.26	+ 54.76	-86.94
Marion								
Total	22,871	7,495	13,077	2,299	- 4.57	+22.39	+160.86	-82.08
White	15,732	5,345	8,612	1,775	+1.01	+29.14	+155.39	-77.99
Nonwhite	7,139	2,150	4,465	524	- 14.93	+ 8.31	+172.09	-89.01
Marshall								
Total	24,027	5,728	14,213	4,086	- 4.30	+74.85	+432.72	-78.68
White	9,124	2,331	5,805	988	+23.73	+66.98	+233.24	-76.68
Nonwhite	14,903	3,397	8,408	3,098	- 15.95	+80.69	+807.99	-79.24
Monroe								
Total	34,043	13,398	16,996	3,649	- 6.84	+30.33	+135.86	-80.85
White	23,655	9,122	12,252	2,281	+ 3.62	+42.07	+102.38	-77.97
Nonwhite	10,388	4,276	4,744	1,368	- 24.25	+10.81	+311.81	-84.28
Montgomery								
Total	12,918	5,489	5,688	1,741	- 10.73	+59.52	+ 90.81	-78.37
White	7,126	3,341	2,814	971	- 13.58	+70.90	+ 39.24	-77.26
Nonwhite	5,792	2,148	2,874	770	- 6.94	+44.55	+199.38	-79.62
Neshoba								
Total	20,802	6,358	10,534	3,910	-19.15	+42.17	+195.65	-77.90
White	15,403	4,375	8,071	2,957	- 19.20	+40.36	+176.78	-77.31

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Nonwhite	5,399	1,983	2,463	953	- 19.01	+46.35	+280.68	-79.57
Newton								
Total	18,983	3,556	12,850	2,577	- 16.30	+22.12	+136.87	-82.03
White	13,353	2,257	8,790	2,306	- 9.95	+10.96	+139.51	-74.73
Nonwhite	5,630	1,299	4,060	271	- 28.30	+47.95	+131.34	-94.81
Noxubee								
Total	14,288	2,877	7,745	3,666	- 28.64	–	+ 57.80	-75.74
White	4,844	1,503	2,109	1,232	- 5.34	–	- 11.16	-55.09
Nonwhite	9,444	1,374	5,636	2,434	- 36.64	–	+122.42	-80.32
Oktibbeha								
Total	28,752	16,072	10,890	1,790	+ 17.03	+126.14	+ 57.78	-83.05
White	18,555	12,607	4,852	1,096	+ 44.76	+158.50	+ 3.94	-66.51
Nonwhite	10,197	3,465	6,038	694	- 13.22	+55.38	+170.28	-90.48
Panola								
Total	26,829	3,796	18,495	4,538	- 14.20	–	+ 93.81	-79.12
White	13,061	3,107	7,724	2,230	- 5.23	–	+ 28.16	-71.24
Nonwhite	13,768	689	10,771	2,308	- 21.28	–	+206.34	-83.48
Pearl River								
Total	27,802	10,450	16,243	1,109	+ 34.69	+55.81	+186.32	-86.58
White	22,664	6,914	14,686	1,064	+ 40.35	+79.58	+208.66	-85.89
Nonwhite	5,138	3,536	1,577	45	+ 14.36	+23.77	+ 70.16	-93.76
Perry								
Total	9,065	–	7,945	1,120	- 0.47	–	+ 82.90	-76.49
White	6,674	–	5,751	923	- 3.23	–	+ 88.68	-76.02
Nonwhite	2,391	–	2,194	197	+ 8.14	–	+ 69.29	-78.47
Pike								

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Total	31,756	11,833	17,990	1,933	- 9.62	+13.77	+ 44.77	-84.30
White	17,922	7,914	8,816	1,192	- 7.75	+ 1.10	+ 37.66	-77.06
Nonwhite	13,834	3,919	9,174	741	- 11.94	+52.31	+ 52.32	-89.58
Pontotoc								
Total	17,363	3,451	10,255	3,657	- 13.16	–	+116.40	-76.03
White	14,225	2,884	8,141	3,200	- 12.07	–	+103.37	-73.72
Nonwhite	3,138	567	2,114	457	- 17.77	–	+187.23	-85.16
Prentiss								
Total	20,133	5,895	11,216	3,022	+ 1.63	+73.91	+232.23	-77.00
White	17,828	4,992	9,891	2,945	+ 2.01	+82.19	+230.25	-74.92
Nonwhite	2,305	903	1,325	77	- 1.20	+62.70	+247.77	-94.49
Quitman								
Total	15,888	2,609	8,990	4,289	- 38.62	–	+ 71.27	-79.22
White	6,730	1,080	3,877	1,773	- 33.91	–	+ 37.73	-75.94
Nonwhite	9,158	1,529	5,113	2,516	- 41.68	–	+110.07	-81.04
Rankin								
Total	43,933	12,218	29,092	2,623	+ 52.12	–	+ 88.55	-80.50
White	31,484	11,562	18,388	1,534	+107.00	–	+ 96.43	-73.77
Nonwhite	12,449	656	10,704	1,089	- 8.94	–	76.40	-85.68
Scott								
Total	21,369	6,715	11,878	2,776	- 1.44	+133.65	+116.59	-79.16
White	14,304	4,585	7,787	1,932	+ 16.20	+200.07	+126.70	-73.70
Nonwhite	7,065	2,130	4,091	844	- 24.61	+58.25	+ 99.66	-85.88
Sharkey								
Total	8,937	–	5,408	3,529	- 30.74	–	+ 56.53	-62.65

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
White	3,142	–	2,488	654	- 15.24	–	+ 48.71	-67.85
Nonwhite	5,795	–	2,920	2,875	- 36.98	–	+ 63.86	-61.22
Simpson								
Total	19,947	2,911	14,687	2,349	- 8.58	–	+ 56.53	-83.37
White	13,658	2,311	9,714	1,633	- 6.12	–	+ 48.71	-81.49
Nonwhite	6,289	600	4,973	716	- 13.49	–	+ 63.86	-86.50
Smith								
Total	13,561	–	10,254	3,307	- 18.99	–	+ 90.86	-75.40
White	10,620	–	7,673	2,947	- 20.45	–	+ 69.59	-71.90
Nonwhite	2,941	–	2,581	360	- 13.24	–	+152.82	-87.83
Stone								
Total	8,101	2,932	4,628	541	+ 29.33	–	+211.01	-79.77
White	6,226	2,173	3,572	481	+ 27.09	–	+167.91	-78.23
Nonwhite	1,875	759	1,056	60	+ 37.36	–	+496.07	-87.10
Sunflower								
Total	37,047	11,615	19,296	6,136	- 33.88	+165.85	+ 28.91	-84.31
White	13,619	5,276	6,153	2,190	- 23.80	+152.08	+ 32.79	-77.64
Nonwhite	23,428	6,339	13,143	3,946	- 38.60	+178.51	+ 17.33	-86.54
Tallahatchie								
Total	19,338	2,627	7,856	8,855	- 36.57	- 0.08	+ 53.64	-62.09
White	7 650	1,254	3,842	2,544	- 30.94	- 16.73	+ 2.82	-63.10
Nonwhite	11,688	1,373	4,014	6,301	- 39.78	+ 22.26	+ 99.89	-61.67
Tate								
Total	18,544	4,247	11,260	3,037	+ 2.96	–	+ 74.66	-77.92
White	9,780	3.065	5,189	1,526	+ 28.01	–	+ 44.98	-69.18
Nonwhite	8,764	1,182	6,071	1,511	- 15.50	–	+117.21	-82.83

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
Tippah								
Total	15,852	3,482	9,277	3,093	- 9.53	–	+ 71.54	-74.47
White	13,246	2,845	7,851	2,550	- 6.25	–	+ 72.25	-73.36
Nonwhite	2,606	637	1,426	543	- 23.20	–	+ 67.76	-78.65
Tishomingo								
Total	14,940	–	12,922	2,018	- 3.89	–	+125.7[illegible]	-79.45
White	14,271	–	12,319	1,952	- 3.17	–	+129.66	-79.18
Nonwhite	669	–	603	66	- 17.00	–	+ 67.04	-85.17
Tunica								
Total	11,854	–	5,979	5,875	- 45.28	–	+ 92.00	-68.33
White	3,240	–	2,208	1,032	- 17.75	–	+ 39.57	-56.22
Nonwhite	8,614	–	3,771	4,843	- 51.40	–	+146.15	-70.09
Union								
Total	19,096	6,426	9,457	3,213	- 5.76	+74.62	+186.75	-75.81
White	16,146	4,877	8,534	2,735	- 2.89	+84.04	+199.54	-75.42
Nonwhite	2,950	1,549	923	478	- 18.87	+50.39	+105.57	-77.84
Walthall								
Total	12,500	–	9,620	2,880	- 19.68	–	+272.44	-77.81
White	7,406	–	5,645	1,761	- 11.80	–	+235.41	-73.77
Nonwhite	5,094	–	3,975	1,119	- 28.90	–	+341.67	-82.14
Warren								
Total	44,981	25,586	18,372	1,023	+ 13.54	- 8.45	+207.89	-82.06
White	26,497	12,913	13,049	535	+ 35.72	- 9.48	+299.91	-73.20
Nonwhite	18,484	12,673	5,323	488	- 8.00	- 7.38	+ 96.86	-86.83
Washington								
Total	70,581	48,898	18,698	2,985	+ 0.11	+41.03	+137.25	-89.32

(TABLE 5 continued)

County	1970 Population				Percent Change 1950-1970			
	Total	Urban	Rural		Total	Urban	Rural	
			Nonfarm	Farm			Nonfarm	Farm
White	31,874	22,369	8,039	1,466	+ 36.00	+63.48	+ 97.37	-74.19
Nonwhite	38,707	26,529	10,659	1,519	- 17.76	+26.39	+179.91	-93.18
Wayne								
Total	16,650	4,368	10,562	1,720	- 2.12	+26.90	+195.69	-82.79
White	11,163	2,670	7,248	1,245	+ 3.44	+35.33	+229.60	-81.19
Nonwhite	5,487	1,698	3,314	475	- 11.76	+15.59	+141.37	-85.93
Webster								
Total	10,047	–	8,417	1,630	- 13.44	–	+160.19	-80.53
White	7,789	–	6,307	1,482	- 12.63	–	+148.11	-76.75
Nonwhite	2,258	–	2,110	148	- 16.12	–	+204.47	-92.60
Wilkinson								
Total	11,099	–	9,881	1,218	- 21.37	–	+ 40.36	-82.79
White	3,583	–	3,281	302	- 17.78	–	+ 15.73	-80.17
Nonwhite	7,516	–	6,600	916	- 22.98	–	+ 56.96	-83.50
Winston								
Total	18,406	6,568	8,498	3,340	- 17.21	+24.35	+192.73	-76.22
White	10,956	4,002	4,553	2,401	- 15.32	+35.43	+137.88	-70.24
Nonwhite	7,450	2,566	3,945	939	- 19.83	+10.27	+298.89	-84.29
Yalobusha								
Total	11,915	3,597	6,785	1,533	- 21.57	+11.95	+190.08	-84.10
White	7,101	2,455	3,925	721	- 16.74	- 0.37	+143.64	-83.81
Nonwhite	4,814	1,142	2,860	812	- 27.74	+52.47	+292.86	-84.34
Yazoo								
Total	27,304	10,796	13,833	2,675	- 23.54	+10.77	+159.04	-87.03
White	12,725	4,327	7,120	1,278	- 6.65	+ 2.32	+112.41	-78.88
Nonwhite	14,579	6,469	6,713	1,397	- 33.97	+17.26	+237.68	-90.42